



**Larry Hogan**  
Governor

**Boyd K. Rutherford**  
Lt. Governor

**Ian D. MacFarlane**  
Chair

**James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph. D.**  
Secretary

**Segmental Advisory Council Agenda**  
Monday, April 20, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.  
Video Teleconference (GoToMeeting)

- I. Call to Order
- II. Introductions and Welcome
- III. Approval of Minutes – January 6, 2020
- IV. Credential Engine (Dr. Emily Dow)
- V. Removing Hold on Approving Medical Assistant Programs (Dr. Emily Dow)
- VI. Graduate Follow-Up Survey (Dr. Barbara Schmertz)
- VII. Non-Credit Workforce Training Completer Data Collection (Dr. Barbara Schmertz)
- VIII. Firewall Issue with Community Colleges (Dr. Emily Dow)
- IX. API Reconciliation (Dr. Emily Dow)
- X. Issue of Pass/Fail Grading at the K-12 Level (MICUA)
- XI. GPA Upload Tool (Ms. Donna Thomas)
- XII. MHEC's Response to COVID-19 Pandemic (Ms. Donna Thomas and Dr. Emily Dow)
- XIII. Member Updates
- XIV. Adjournment

## Segmental Advisory Council (SAC) – January 6, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Minutes

The topics discussed are located on the agenda below. No action items, other than the approval of the minutes, were considered at the meeting. The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:02 a.m. and adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

### Attending Segment Heads (or representative):

1. Dr. James D. Fielder, Jr. – Chair, MHEC	2. Dr. Bernard Sadusky – MACC
3. Ms. Sara Fidler – MICUA	4. Dr. Patricia Williams Lessane – MSU (Representative)
5. Dr. Antoinette Coleman – USM (Representative)	6. Dr. Michael Wick – SMCM (Representative via phone)

### Agenda and Notes:

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Introductions and Welcome** – Secretary James Fielder welcomed everyone to the first Segmental Advisory Council meeting of the year and mentioned that it was the first time we were livestreaming the meeting.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – Ms. Fidler motioned to approve the minutes and Dr. Sadusky seconded the motion. The minutes from the November 18, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved.
- IV. **Update on MSDE-Proposed Teacher Preparation Regulations** – (This item was discussed after item VII, which was moved to the top of the agenda.) Dr. Emily Dow (MHEC Assistant Secretary for Academic Affairs) provided an update on the status of these proposed regulations. There has been no further action taken. Dr. Williams Lessane remarked that these proposed regulations would disproportionately impact HBCUs, particularly the mentorship requirement and the required additional hours.
- V. **AAT Proposed Regulatory Changes** – Dr. Dow shared a memo from MSDE regarding educator certification, which states that the Maryland State Board of Education approved on April 23, 2019 the acceptance of a 3.0 Grade Point Average in lieu of a passing score on an approved basic skills assessment when applying for a Maryland Educator Certificate. Any feedback on the suggested changes to COMAR regarding AAT (Associate of Arts in Teaching) requirements (attached to the memo) should be provided by Friday, January 17 before the next Commission meeting.
- VI. **Invitation to Participate in Substantial Modifications Workgroup** – Dr. Dow shared a memo inviting participation in the Workgroup to Study MHEC’s Review of Substantial Modifications for Academic Programs. The Workgroup is charged with reviewing the current definition of a “substantial modification” and making recommendations, as well as considering the MHEC review process for substantial modifications and recommend changes. Suggested names from segments should be sent by Friday, January 10. Ms.

Fidler asked about the expected timeline and Dr. Dow responded that MHEC hopes to schedule a meeting of the Workgroup before the end of session and complete their work by summer.

- VII. **MSDE Memorandum – Supporting States’ Policy Strategy to Improve Early Care and Education Workforce** – (This item was moved to the top of the agenda due to a scheduling conflict of the MSDE representative.) Dr. Dow explained that the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) was tasked by the Kirwan Commission to work with several groups to help develop a policy agenda designed to improve the quality of the childcare and early childhood education workforce. The memo highlights the work that they have already accomplished. Specifically, they have two requests. First, they would like to see more institutions move to an online format, offering greater flexibility to students entering the field of early childhood education. Second, they recommend increased collaboration between two-year and four-year institutions to create an online early childhood degree with a curriculum focused on birth to five years of age. Assistant State Superintendent Steven Hicks of the Division of Early Childhood was on hand to answer some clarifying questions. The segment representatives were requested to circulate the memo to their education departments.
- VIII. **Statewide and Institutional Reporting of Multi-Race Data** – Dr. Barbara Schmertz (MHEC’s Director of the Office of Research & Policy Analysis) presented a memo informing the Segmental Advisory Council that MHEC is now (and has been doing since 2016) fully implementing federal guidelines that have been in place since 2010 which relate to the reporting of multi-race (two or more races) data.
- IX. **Institution-Based Audits of Financial Aid Administration (per the requirement for MHEC to audit GA/EA programs)** – Ms. Fidler requested this agenda item and asked about any changes in specifications of this requirement for institutions to procure their own independent audits. Ms. Donna Thomas (MHEC’s Director of the Office of Student Financial Assistance) responded that the audits will take place annually and that information had already been sent to the institutions highlighting changes.
- X. **Update on the FAAC Report Regarding Certification of Students for GA Eligibility (HB 824 of 2019)** – Ms. Fidler circulated some suggested changes to House Bill 824 Financial Aid – Guaranteed Access Grants – Verification and Administration by Institutions of Higher Education for consideration. If changes are not made during the 2020 legislative session, the bill goes into effect on July 1. There was some discussion regarding Ms. Fidler’s suggested changes. Mr. Dennis Hoyle with MICUA also expressed his support for changes to be made.
- XI. **Member Updates**
- Dr. Dow reported that MHEC will have its kick-off meeting on Monday, April 20 to discuss writing the 2021-2025 Maryland State Plan for Higher Education. A save-the-date invitation will be sent out soon.

- Ms. Fidler reported that **MICUA** is currently preparing for the upcoming legislative session and is also working on a bill. Independent Higher Education Day will take place in Annapolis on February 26.
- Dr. Coleman informed everyone that today is Dr. Jay Perman’s first day as Chancellor of **USM**. There will be a “meet & greet” event for him today. They are also currently preparing for session.
- Dr. Sadusky reported that **MACC** will launch its second digital campaign on the Promise Scholarship. It will start next week and run through March 1. They will also host a completion summit in October of this year. Its theme will be related to the transfer process.
- Dr. Williams Lessane shared that **Morgan** is currently focused on training its faculty and supporting its students by helping them secure choice internships. Next week, there will be several workshops for faculty.
- Dr. Wick shared about **St. Mary’s** initiative to develop a curriculum called LEAD (Learning Through Experiential and Applied Discovery). Their recent efforts to raise funding for this initiative was very successful. On Giving Tuesday, there were about 2,000 individuals who made donations.

## XII. **Adjournment**